

Be Safe

Be A Learner

Be Respectful

July 2024

Dear families,

I would like to say thank you to everyone for giving me such a very warm welcome to Merino Consolidated School. I have been delighted to get to know all the students and staff. Ms Hulin did tell me that the students at Merino were fabulous and she was right. Thank you to Ms Hulin for a thorough hand-over on the administration details that are necessary to running a happy school. A special thank you to Miss Bailey and Glenda for answering all my questions and helping me settle into Merino so well.

Just a little information about myself – I was born and bred in the Hamilton area, went to local schools before heading to Ballarat for university. After university, I returned to Hamilton area and taught in local schools. I have spent most of my teaching career at Gray St Primary School in Hamilton and at Cavendish Primary School. I even taught Miss Bailey when she was in Year 3! Allan and I have five children and five wonderful grandchildren

Currently, the position of Principal is being advertised with the successful applicant starting at the beginning of Term Four. Some of the parent members of the school council are involved in the process of interviewing and selecting the successful applicant.

Welcome Breakfast

Last week, we all enjoyed a delicious breakfast where I got to meet the families of our school. We had a delicious menu of pancakes, eggs and bacon, toast and fruit. Some of our students even enjoyed multiple breakfasts! Thank you to all families in helping with cooking and cleaning up.

Gymnastics

Each Tuesday, after an early lunch, we head into Hamilton in the bus/car for our lessons with the gymnastics coach Tanya. Already, you can see the progress the students are making after two lessons. On ClassDojo, Miss Bailey has been posting lots of great photos, so please check them out. Our lessons start 1.45 and conclude at 2.45. Families are welcome to come and watch as well.

100 Days of Foundation

This coming Friday, our five Foundation students are celebrating 100 days of school. To celebrate, all the school are invited to dress up as 'seniors' or '100 year olds'. We have invited our Digby Knitting Ladies to share a high tea with us after our knitting class.

Parent Survey

Please remember to complete the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation. A letter was sent home on Monday with the links. If you need more details or the link, please contact the school.

Transition

Preparing for the transition from kindergarten to primary school or from primary to secondary school can be a time for change and nerves. To assist with this, Miss Bailey will be attending Casterton Kindergarten this term to meet the future Merino CS Foundation students. Thomas in Year 4 will be spending the day (16<sup>th</sup> of August) at Casterton Secondary School as part of their Discovery Days Program.

Lightning Premierships

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> of August, The Year 3-6 students will be representing Merino CS at the CDSSA Lightning Premierships at Silvester Oval in Coleraine. They will be participating in mixed teams playing football and netball. More details and permission forms will be sent soon.

Kind regards,

Lisa Ferrier  
Acting Principal



**A reminder that no Kitchen classes run during the 1st and last weeks of term—please supply students lunches.**

*As always, If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to drop in or call for a chat .*

**Please make sure you are listening to your child read every night.**

**It is important that your child read to someone who can discuss their story and check for their understanding of what they are reading.**



**Establishing good nightly reading habits early helps to develop your child's brain, ability to focus, concentration, social skills and communication skills.**



#### SCHOOL CALENDAR

August

13th & 20th Regional Arts Victoria—Inursion Performance

15th School Council Meeting

19th -20th BOOK WEEK

26th Lightening Prems in Coleraine (Year 3– 6)

TBC Japanese Excursion to Victorian Language School

September

21st - BioLab Excursion to Geelong Yr 5 & 6

21st Last day of Term 3

October

5th Term 4 Begins

November

11th Remembrance Day—Students read poems at the Cenotaph

19th Kinder Transition Morning 9am—11am

26th Kinder Transition Morning 9am— 11am

December

10th State Wide Transition Day

13th Last Kitchen Class

16th December Last Day of School For Merino CS students

17th Pupil Free Day Parent teacher Interviews

18th Pupil Free Day 2025 Staff Planning Day

19th Pupil Free Day 2025 Staff Planning day

20th Pupil Free Day—2024 Archiving

